

Remarks

In the Office Action, the Claims 1-5, 8-39, 43-44, 46, and 48-50 are allowed and claims 40-42, 45, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and provide locations within the specification as originally filed that provide support for the rejected claims.

Claim 40: Support may be found for copolymerization of the “methyl methacrylate terminated poly(L-lactic acid), methyl acrylate terminated poly(D,L-lactic acid), and acrylate terminated (L-lactic acid)” monomers of claim 40 on page 26, lines 6-21, for example. Further discussion of the copolymerization of such monomers extends from page 26 to page 28, line 20, a discussion of the preparation of the macromonomers is present in examples 8, 8B, 8C, and 8D, and copolymerization of the macromonomers with MMA and butyl acrylate is described in examples 8E, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8I, and 8J.

Claim 41: Support may be found for copolymerization wherein the “copolymerizable monomer is an acrylate” of claim 41 on page 28, lines 6-20, for example.

Claim 42: Support may be found for copolymerization wherein the “copolymerizable monomer is at least one of acrylates, methyl acrylates, butyl acrylates, methacrylates, and methyl methacrylates” of claim 42 in the sections referenced above for claims 40 and 41; in examples 8E, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8I, and 8J; and col. 8 lines 23-44 of the United States Patent No. 5,763,548 which is incorporated by reference in the subject application, for example.

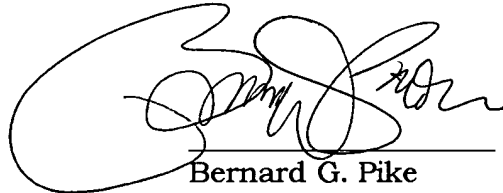
Claim 45: Claim 45 has been amended to include the limitation that the polymerization is conducted using a compatible co-solvent for both the macromonomer and the copolymer. This limitation is supported on page 2, lines 19-21 and in the examples using solvents, for example.

Claim 47: Claim 47 has been canceled with prejudice or disclaimer.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to fully respond to the all the election requirement presented in the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in the subject application. If the Examiner has any concerns regarding Applicants' present response, he is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard G. Pike", is written over a horizontal line.

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